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Martin O'Malley
Governor

Anthony Brown
Lt. Governor

Tammy Brown
Executive Director

For Immediate Release:

April 3, 2012

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Maryland State Board of Victim Services Holds Governor's Victim Assistance Awards and First Annual Crime Victim and Advocate Commemorative Day Luncheon

This year's Governor's Victim Assistance Awards Luncheon was unique – crime victims and the advocates who serve them were honored on Wednesday, April 3 by the Maryland State Board of Victim Services. As part of the activities, a Proclamation from the Governor was presented to Roberta and Vincent Roper at the **Governor's Victim Assistance Awards and First Annual Crime Victim and Advocate Commemorative Day Luncheon**. The Proclamation was presented on behalf of the Governor by Col. Russell Brown, Superintendent of the Maryland State Police.

DATE: April 3, 2013
TIME: 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm
WHERE: Double Tree by Hilton Hotel
210 Holiday Court
Annapolis, MD 21401

In 2012, the Governor signed legislation which requires the Governor annually to proclaim April 3 as **Crime Victims and Advocates Commemorative Day**. This is to give recognition to individuals in the State who have become crime victims and to honor the advocates who serve those victims. Additionally, the law requires the Governor to take appropriate steps to publicize Crime Victims and Advocates Commemorative Day.

The luncheon is held each year to show appreciation and recognition to an individual, agency, organization or group that does meritorious work on behalf of crime victims or in furtherance of the crime victims' movement in Maryland. The award recognizes outstanding work done in the area of victim advocacy and services that exceeds expected work responsibilities, and exemplifies a high level of commitment and dedication to the field of victims' rights and services and to the victims themselves. This year's awards reflect the period from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012.

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EDITORS: The program for the event is attached

Governor's Victim Assistance Awards

Individual Award Recipients

Outstanding Elected or Appointed Policymaker

The Honorable
Sheila R. Tillerson Adams
Administrative Judge Prince
Georges County and
7th Judicial Circuit

Outstanding Victim Services Professional

Heather Amador
Anne Arundel County
State's Attorney's Office
Kathryn Barakat
Cecil County Domestic
Violence/Rape Crisis Center
Heather Brantner
Baltimore Mayor's Office
on Criminal Justice
M. Rebecca Doing
Heartly House, Inc.
Maria Isabel Gomez
Women's Law Center
of Maryland
Kimberly Gunishaw
Maryland Crime Victims
Resource Center, Inc.

Elizabeth Ireland, Esq.
Life Crisis Center, Inc.

Amy P. Jarkiewicz
TurnAround, Inc.

Ambia Mason
Mid-Shore Council on
Family Violence

Patricia Melcer
Queen Anne's County
Care Center

Vanessa Queen
Anne Arundel County
Police Department, CID

Linda M. Sweeney
Harford County Child
Advocacy Center

Yang Zhao
Maryland Crime Victims
Resource Center, Inc.

Outstanding Criminal Justice Professional

Sergeant Ryan Frashure
Anne Arundel County
Police Department

Officer Kim Gunnoe
Anne Arundel County
Police Department

Lieutenant Rhonda McCoy
Baltimore City
Police Department,
Family Crimes Unit

Kerwin Anthony Miller, Sr., Esq.
Cecil County State's
Attorney's Office

Officer Stacy Overbay
Anne Arundel County
Police Department

Outstanding Volunteer Contribution to Victim Services

Christine Collins
VINE, District Court
Jennifer Hobrecht
Intern, Montgomery County
Department of Police

Group Award Recipients

Outstanding Criminal Justice Professional

Officers Kirk Henry and Edward Bailey
Baltimore Police Department
Baltimore City Police Department
Witness Relocation Unit
Sergeant Keith E. Harrison, Detective Regina Richardson, Detective Eddys Navarro, Detective Kevin T. Robinson, Detective Darren Moore, Detective Arthur W. Page, Detective Steve Henson, Detective Lakishna Degraffinried, Detective Nicole Monroe

Outstanding Volunteer Contribution to Victim Services

Laurie Duker and Judy Whiton
Court Watch Montgomery

Outstanding Media or Communications Professionals

WNAV 1430 Radio Station
Bill Lusby, Steve Hopp, Earlene Bowersox

Outstanding Victim Services Professional

Heartly House - Legal Department
Blaine Hoffman, Esq., Shondell Foster, Esq., M. Rebecca Doing, Nancy Wiles, Shannon Jones

Outstanding Contribution to Victim Services

Roper Victim Assistance Academy
Dr. Debra L. Stanley, Dr. Heather L. Pfeifer, Elaine Witman, David R. Thomas, Deborah Bradley, Linda Fair
VINE: SB411 (2012) District Court
Russell Butler, Esq., Virginia Geckler, Senator J.B. Jennings, Steven Knoll, Esq., Martha Kumer, Anne Litecky, Scott Schellenberger, Esq., Richard Reinhardt, Christine Collins, Peggy Basham, Frank Broccolina, Faye D. Matthews

Governor's Victim Assistance Awards

~ and ~

First Annual Crime Victim and Advocate Commemorative Day Luncheon

Master of Ceremonies

Debra Tall, Luncheon Committee Chair
Maryland State Board of Victim Services

Welcome

Tammy Brown, Executive Director
Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention

Presentation of the Proclamation

Governor Martin O'Malley
First Annual Crime Victim and Advocate Commemorative Day
Vincent and Roberta Roper

First Annual Crime Victim and Advocate Commemorative Day

Milestones Slideshow presented by Roberta Roper
with speakers
Bonita Spikes, Christine Collins
Diane Champe', Lisa Spicknall, Ricardo Wiggs

Lunch Served

Presentation of the Henry Gleim Memorial Award to Cynthia Smith

Deirdre Gardner

Presentation of the 2013 Governor's Victim Assistance Awards

Readers: Barbara Bond, Sheriff R. Gary Hofmann III, Kathleen O'Brien Margery Patten, Patricia Marshall, Rhea Harris, Rea Goldfinger, Scott Beard

Closing Remarks

Debra Tall